

JUN 1 1966

Mansfield Acts To Avert Fight On CIA Panel

By the Associated Press

Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield tries for a compromise today before a possible showdown on Senate overseeing of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Mansfield called last night for a meeting with the principals in the controversy—Chairman J. W. Fulbright of the Foreign Relations Committee, Chairman Richard B. Russell of the present CIA watchdog group and Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy, D-Minn.

Fulbright, Arkansas Democrat, said he will introduce in the Senate today McCarthy's resolution to set up a nine-man watchdog committee with three members each from the Foreign Relations, Armed Services and Appropriations committees.

But the showdown vote may depend on backstage strategy, other business and Senate attendance. Fulbright postponed his move last week because he felt not enough senators were in town.

Present Panel Opposes

The move is opposed by members of the present CIA panel headed by Russell, Georgia Democrat, and composed of six other members of the Armed Services and Appropriations committees.

Several compromises are being mentioned, including the addition of two senior Foreign Relations Committee members to the present panel or an announcement that the CIA is willing to brief the Foreign Relations Committee on its activities.

Unless some compromise is worked out—and Russell says this is extremely doubtful—the resolution stands little chance when confronted with such powerful opposition as Russell and Republican Leader Everett M. Dirksen.

Warns on Opening Door

Dirksen warned against opening the door to wholesale congressional prying into intelligence activities.

If the Foreign Relations Committee wins its fight to put three of its members on the Senate's CIA panel, Dirksen said in an interview, it would be an open invitation to other committees to try to follow suit.

Fulbright and McCarthy argue their committee should have a role in supervising the CIA because of the agency's impact on foreign policy. The Foreign Relations Committee approved the resolution 14 to 5.

STAT